

Regional History Centre, UWE, Bristol

Writing the West

A conference jointly organised by
The Regional History Centre at the University of the West of
England, Bristol, M Shed, Bristol, &
The Bristol Festival of Ideas

11 & 12 May 2012

Venue: M-Shed, Prince's Rd, Bristol

Provisional Programme

Friday 11th May 2012

9.00 registration and coffee

9.45: welcome

10.00: Keynote Lecture 1: Peter Fleming (UWE, Bristol), Constructing the Past, Recording the Present in the Later Medieval West of England

11.10: coffee

11.30-1.00 Parallel Sessions

11.30: panel 1 Writing Arthur in the West: Innovation and identity

Gareth Griffith (U of Bristol): Writing the city and civic identity: King Arthur and Saint Katherine in the Red Book of Bath.

Juliette Wood (Cardiff U): Prince Madog's Arthurian adventure in Mobile, Alabama: the Arthurian World in Sanders Anne Laubenthal's *Excalibur*

Elizabeth Archibald (U of Bristol): Camelot in the ruins of Bath: Philip Reeve's *Here Lies Arthur*

11.30: panel 2 New Work on Bristol & West Country Labouring Class Poetry

Chair: Bridget Keegan (Creighton University, Omaha)

Nick Groom (University of Exeter) Dacyannes and Scythyanes, Saxons and Normans: Chatterton, Gothic History, and the South West.

Kerri Andrews, (Strathclyde University), Ann Yearlsey, a Bristol Poet.

John Goodridge (Nottingham Trent), John Gregory: sonnets, shoemaking and socialism

1.00pm Lunch

2.00-3.30 Parallel Sessions

2.00-3.30 panel 1: Landscape, Nature and Place

Dave Postles (University of Leicester) Trickster in the Wiltshire landscape: E. M. Forster and *The Longest Journey*

Richard Coates (UWE, Bristol) 'Bent on emptying his note-book in decent English': Richard Jefferies, naturalistic observation, and English dialect.

Peter S. Forsaith (Oxford Brookes University), 'A fair prospect in Cornwall': Wesley as travel writer.

2.00-3.30 Panel 2 Twentieth Century Perspectives

Cathy Butler (UWE, Bristol), Intertopicality in the work of Diana Wynne Jones

Zoe Brennan (UWE, Bristol), Angela Carter's 'Bristol Trilogy' : A portrait of Bristol's counter-culture in the 1960s.

Anna Farthing (Harvest heritage Arts & Media): Mummerset, or Yeah but no but its not really like that... representing the West Country in Dramatic Writing for theatre and film.

3.30-3.50 coffee

3.50-4.50: Nineteenth Century Bristol

Sarah-Joy Maddeaux (University of Bristol), 'A Great Asset to the City of Bristol': Guidebooks as an Indicator of Bristol Zoo Gardens' Status as Tourist Attraction

Eugene Byrne (Independent scholar), Zealous Converts: Two contrasting journalists in Victorian Bristol

5.00 - close

Saturday 12th May 2012

9.45 welcome address: Professor Steve West (Vice Chancellor, UWE): Humanities, the Arts and the Future

10.00 keynote lecture 2: Marie Mulvey-Roberts (UWE, Bristol): Bristol: Gothic City

11.10 coffee

11.30-1.00 Parallel Sessions

11.30-1.00 panel 1: Romantic Era Writers and the South West

Robin Jarvis (UWE, Bristol), Robert Southey: Inscribing the West

Cato Marks (UWE, Bristol), 'Let poor folk pass': Hannah More's *Village Politics* (1792) and Writing the South West Poor out of Metropolitan Political Life

Gill Ballinger (UWE, Bristol), Austen's Bath and Bath's Jane: Writing the City in *Northanger Abbey* and *Persuasion* and the Posthumous Cultural Appropriation of Austen in the South West.

11.30-1.00 Panel 2 Wessex and the Historical Landscape

Brian Edwards (Independent scholar), Created in Chalk Recast in Print: Reputations and Silences Surrounding the Chalk Monuments of the West of England.

Bill Greenslade (UWE, Bristol) 'And Citizens Dream of the South and West': Thomas Hardy's West Country.

William Gibson (Oxford Brookes University), Writing 'The Western Martyrology': the 'Bloody Assizes' in West Country History

1.00-2.00 lunch

2.00-3.30 Parallel Sessions

2.00-3.30 panel 1 William Barnes and Dorset Dialect

Chair: Tom Burton (University of Adelaide)

Frances Austin-Jones, (formerly University of Liverpool) Barnes's Occasional Prose Writings on Dorset Matters

J. B. (John) Smith, (formerly University of Bath), Folk Life and Folklore in the Mirror of William Barnes's Dorset Dialect Glossary and Poems

Emilie Loriaux (University of Artois in Arras), From 'Zome other geäme' to 'another joy': Composing, translating and/or rewriting in the poetry of Barnes.

2.00-3.30 panel 2: People, Print and Place

Kevin Grieves (Bath Spa University), William Meyler's Circulating Library and Print Culture in late Eighteenth Century Bath

Dafydd Moore (University of Plymouth): "From your own Annals he his story draws": Literature and Cultural Identity in Devon and Cornwall in the Late Eighteenth Century

Madge Dresser (UWE, Bristol) Bristol Women writing the West, 1700-1820

3.30-3.50 coffee

3.50-5.30 A Performative Turn: The West in Song and Dialect Speech

Chris Wildridge (Independent researcher) There be Dragons – or Wiltshire as a Source of Traditional Songs

Tom Burton (University of Adelaide), 'Präise o' Do'set': a reading of selected poems from William Barnes's *Poems of Rural Life in the Dorset Dialect* in the pronunciation of his own day

Paul Wilson and Marilyn Tucker (Wren Music/University of Plymouth), Singing the West: Searching for a Musical Identity

5.30 close